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Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, DC 20231

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Office of the Director Group 3600

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In re application of Ronald L. Carr Application No. 08/952,001 Filed: November 7, 1997

For: JOINT ASSEMBLY EMPLOYING

MULTI-RING GASKET

DECISION ON PETITION TO RESET A PERIOD FOR REPLY

This is in reply to the Petition to Reset a Period for Reply, received in the Patent and Trademark Office on April 7, 2003.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

A review of the file record reveals that an Examiner's Answer was mailed on January 31, 2003. Appellant alleges that the Examiner's Answer was mailed to an incorrect correspondence address.

A further review of the file reveals that a copy of the change of address which bears a Certificate of Mailing date of October 21, 2002 was faxed to the Office on March 14, 2003. Therefore, the Office communication of January 31, 2003 was improperly sent to an incorrect address of record. The Office communication of January 31, 2003 was remailed to the updated correspondence address; however, that communication was not redated. Thus, appellant's time to file a reply brief continued to run from the original mail date of January 31, 2003. In view of this error, the petition is **GRANTED**.

Accordingly, appellant may file a reply brief to the Examiner's Answer within two months from the date of this decision.

Renneth J. Dorner, Special Programs Examiner

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KJD/tpl: 7/10/03